

REPORT ON SCREW WORM CONTROL WORK IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISS.

The first few days after reporting for duty the district supervisors were given a short period of training for this work. During this period of training we attended demonstrations of wound treatment, carcass burning, attending lectures and getting instructions as to the best methods of getting the information to the people.

The supplies for treating infested animals was first carried to the County Agents office and stored, from here it was distributed to the stock owners. In most counties the County Agent would schedule meetings at the schools throughout the county. At these meetings demonstrations of wound treatment and in some cases carcass burning demonstrations were given; while there the requests for screw worm supplies were filled out and the materials were issued. The Supervisor explained the proper way to apply these materials, the care of infested animals and the care of stock during the screw worm season. In the counties that have no County Supervisor the materials were left with the County Agent and distributed through his office. Demonstrations were made in these counties when scheduled by the County Agent.

County

In Pearl River we have a project planned that has met with the approval of the local authorities to use 100 men on the relief roll to scout the ranges and burn carcasses, these men are on the relief roll and are to be furnished with horses for a period of 12 days to clean up the ranges, this project has yet to be approved by the Jackson Office. We have been promised help in a similar way in Hancock County by the Local and District Relief Supervisors, this projects also waits the approval of the Jackson Office. The C.C.C. Authorities at Kiln, in Hancock County, has promised cooperation as far as their permit will allow, they have been instructed to burn all carcasses they come across in their work and those they see along the roads, so far they are not allowed to do any scouting.

In the thicker settled communities they have agreed to burn all the animals that die and when slaughtering animals the refuse is burned.

The stock-owners in Pearl River and Hancock Counties are very much interested in learning control measures and where they can they are carrying out instruction in handling infested stock. Some of the men in the more heavily infested areas had just about given up hopes when the work was started, one men having about two thousand sheep had stopped treating his sheep, was going to let the flies have them but when informed about methods of handling his stock and that materials for treating infested animals were being furnished started caring for his stock again. Conditions are better now, the few days of unfavorable weather for the fly has decreased the number of worm cases. In the counties that have stock law very few head of stock have been lost, in the counties where they use the open range the sheepmen have been the heavy losers. Just now there is practically no stock being lost except on the open ranges, the people know how to treat infested animals and the supplies are available at the County Agents office.

If the screw worm fly is able to pass the winter here some of the men will have to change their methods of handling the stock. The men with just a few head will be able to look after his since he now knows how to treat worm cases. Some of the larger stockmen have pastures they are now keeping infested animals confined until well.

Respectfully submitted

J. M. Brunson

